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Item 5 of the provisional agenda

STATUS OF PREPARATION OF PUBLICATIONS, STUDIES AND DOCUMENTS FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE

Note by the Secretariat

Addendum

Contribution of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights

1. The attention of the Preparatory Committee is drawn to the preliminary version of the study entitled "The international protection of human rights in Latin America and the Caribbean". This study was prepared by Professor A.A. Cançado Trindade for the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights and submitted as an information document to the Regional Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean held in San José, Costa Rica, from 18 to 22 January 1993. The final version, taking into account the outcome of the Regional Meeting, will be published by the Institute in the course of 1993.

2. Below is an abstract of the study. The full text in Spanish can be found in the annex to the Spanish version of the present document.

THE INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

by Antonio Augusto Cançado Trindade

Abstract

This study, which was submitted for information to the Regional Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean (San José, Costa Rica, 18-22 January 1993) in preparation for the World Conference on Human Rights (Vienna, June 1993), is now being submitted in a preliminary version, as a technical support document to the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee. It begins with a survey of progress to date under the inter-American system for the protection of human rights. It then deals with the principal items currently on the international human rights agenda, namely, economic, social and cultural rights; development and human rights; strengthening of democracy and the rule of law; human rights and the environment; human rights and vulnerable groups (including the rights of children, dirplaced populations and indigenous peoples); gender-related violence; and human rights education.

There is no attempt to provide an exhaustive list of items. There are naturally other serious human rights problems in existence today, such as impunity in connection with various types of political, social and economic violence, impunity relating to corruption in its various forms, poor administration of justice and overcrowding in prisons, the drug traffic, "internal conflicts" (as they impinge on international humanitarian law) and violence in relations between individuals. The author has therefore chosen to focus on certain key items, without prejudice to the consideration of other items in the future.

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